

Thursday (continued)

How can you go about contributing to these goals today?

What are some ways you and I can fulfill these verses together as a church?

During next week's World Outreach Week (WOW), we will be talking about this very thing! Please pray about how you will take advantage of the opportunities during WOW. Thank God today that His purpose for you is revealed in the Bible. Pray for the strength and the desire to fulfill that purpose! Please pray that the World Outreach Week will provide amazing, revealing insights into how God is fulfilling these verses around the globe!

Friday

When we get back to Nehemiah after the World Outreach Week, we'll be looking at the valuable principles of teamwork found in Nehemiah 3. Skim over that chapter; at first glance it seems pretty dry, but look again: What are some teamwork principles you see here? What interests you about what you see here?

Ask God to bless TLC with a genuine atmosphere of teamwork and togetherness.

Saturday

Please pray for Bob Stromberg as he gives the messages this weekend. Please consider joining us Sunday night at 6 pm for a night of wonderful, rejuvenating laughter!

Prayer Updates

HOSPITALIZED & SURGERIES this past week...

Alan Levy – testing
Carole Thomas – lung biopsy
Lillian Nielsen – surgery

Lowell Anderson – RCU, multiple fractures
Ron Wardle – testing

Recent hospitalizations/surgeries: Dudley Josselyn, John Galli, Mary Crowder
Hospice care: JD Jacobsen

HOME WITH THE LORD

Our church family celebrates the homegoing of **Don Opie**, who was an active member of Twin Lakes Church for over 40 years and loved the Lord with all his heart. Cards may be sent to his wife, Vivian, now residing at 491 Courtyards Loop, Lincoln, CA 95648.

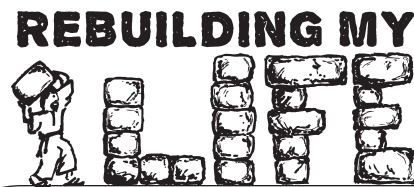
Please remember our TLC missionary to South Africa, Christa Combrinck, who recently lost her sister. 2007 was a very hard year for the Combrincks with a variety of crises. If you would like to send a card, their mailing address is: Johan and Christa Combrinck, P.O. Box 1326, Montana Park 0159, Pretoria, South Africa. (Johan is coming for our Global Missions Week.)

HEARTFELT THANK YOU

"I thank God upon every remembrance of you...," our loving and caring church family (ref. Phil. 1:3). Thank you for the meals, the cards and especially for praying me and my family these past two months. I am doing well and gaining strength. – Paul and Nelda Barton, and Family

We want to provide pastoral support...

Please call 465-3395 when someone is hospitalized, scheduled for surgery, becomes a shut-in, or in special need. Pick up a Prayer Update at the Info Desk.



I. The Tactics of Dream Busters

Tactic #1: _____

"But when Sanballat the Horonite, Tobiah the Ammonite official and Geshem the Arab heard about it, they **mocked and ridiculed** us. 'What is this you are doing?' they asked. 'Are you rebelling against the king?'" *Nehemiah 2:19*

"When Sanballat heard that we were rebuilding the wall he became angry and was greatly incensed and he **ridiculed** the Jews in the presence of the associates and the army of Samaria and he said 'What are those **feeble Jews** doing? Will they restore their wall? Will they offer sacrifices? Will they **finish in a day**? Can they bring stones back to life from those heaps of rubble burned as they are?' Tobiah the Ammonite who was by his side said, 'What are they building? **Even if a fox climbed upon it, he would break down their wall of stones.**'" *Nehemiah 4:1-3*

Tactic #2: _____

"But when Sanballat, Tobiah, the Arabs, the Ammonites and the men of Ashdod heard that the repairs to Jerusalem's walls had gone ahead and that the gaps were being closed, they were very angry. They all **plotted together to come and fight** against Jerusalem and **stir up trouble** against it." *Nehemiah 4:7-8*

Tactic #3: _____

"Our enemies said, 'Before they know it or see us, we will be right there among them and will kill them and put an end to the work.' Then the Jews **who lived near them** came and told us **ten times over, 'Wherever you turn, they will attack us.'**" *Nehemiah 4:11-12*

II. The Effect of Dream Busters

"Meanwhile the people in Judah said, 'The strength of the laborers is giving out, and there is so much rubble that we cannot rebuild the wall. Also our enemies said... they will attack us...'"
Nehemiah 4:10-11

- _____ "strength... giving out"
- _____ "so much rubble"
- _____ "we cannot rebuild"
- _____ "enemies will attack us"

Daily Meditations

Take a few minutes each day to read Bible passages and answer questions based on this week's message.

III. Dealing with Dream Busters

1. Release _____

"Hear us, O our God, for we are despised. Turn their insults back on their own heads. Give them over as plunder in a land of captivity." *Nehemiah 4:4*

"Do not answer a fool according to his folly, or you will be like him yourself." *Proverbs 26:4*

Don't _____ on people, _____ with God.

2. Reinforce _____

"But we prayed to our God and posted a guard day and night to meet this threat." *Nehemiah 4:9*

"Therefore I stationed some of the people behind the lowest points of the wall at the **exposed places**, posting them **by families**, with their swords, spears and bows." *Nehemiah 4:13*

"Those who carried materials did their work with one hand and held a weapon in the other, and each of the builders wore his sword at his side as he worked..." *Nehemiah 4:17,18*

Prepare for _____ but proceed with _____

3. Remember _____

"After I looked things over, I stood up and said to the nobles, the officials and the rest of the people, 'Don't be afraid of them. **Remember the Lord, who is great and awesome...**'" *Nehemiah 4:14a*

4. Realize _____

"...fight for your brothers, your sons and your daughters, your wives and your homes." *Neh. 4:14c*

5. Refuse _____

"When our enemies heard that we were aware of their plot and that God had frustrated it, we all returned to the wall, each to his own work." *Nehemiah 4:15 (see vv. 21-23)*

OUR THEME VERSE FOR THIS SERIES:

"The God of heaven will give us success; therefore we His servants will arise and build." *Nehemiah 2:20*

SO... LET'S GO!!

Monday

Review the notes from this weekend's message and read Nehemiah 4. Which points hit home for you?

What did you learn from Nehemiah's response to the "dream busters"?

Where are you vulnerable to attack? How will you reinforce those weak points?

Today bring to God in prayer the "dream busters" in your life. Ask God for His strength to follow through on the points in the notes.

Tuesday

Reread Nehemiah 4:6-15. Which of the four contributors to discouragement under point II in the notes do you most often struggle with? Which are you struggling with right now?

What did you learn last weekend that can help you overcome that discouragement?

Who in your life can you encourage this week? Think of someone who may be discouraged. Call them or write a note... today!

Thank God that He gives an antidote to discouragement. Ask Him to help you apply what you've learned and to be an encourager to others.

Wednesday

Reread Nehemiah 4:14-18. How does remembering who God is change the attitude of the Israelites?

Read Deuteronomy 7:9, 20:4; Psalms 54:4, 116:5; Isaiah 12:2; and Zephaniah 3:17. What do each of these verses teach you about God?

How can remembering these truths help you move past discouragement?

Thank God today for His Word and its reminder to you of who God is. Ask Him to help you remember these truths, and apply them to combat discouragement.

Thursday

Read Micah 6:8 and Matt. 22:36-40. Nehemiah reminded the people of their purpose: _____

To build the wall! Often discouragement and dreambusters distract us from our life purpose. According to these verses, what are you and I here to do?

How can dreambusters distract us from these goals?

over 



Memory Verse

"Don't be afraid of them. Remember the Lord, who is great and awesome, and fight for your brothers, your sons and your daughters, your wives and your homes."

Nehemiah 4:14b